

STATE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
Friday, September 24, 2021
10:00 A.M. to 11:40 A.M.
Electronic Meeting

State Library Board Attendees:

Marguerite Mower, Chair; Lisa Ord; Sara Wiebke; Dianne Aldrich; Diane Carter; Jason Cornelius; Rebekah Cummings

Utah State Library (USL) Staff:

Chaundra Johnson, State Librarian/Division Director; Lisa Nelson, Blind and Disabled Program Manager; Marie Erickson, Acting Library Development Program Manager, Merrily Cannon; Library Resources Program Manager; Heidi Fendrick, State Data Coordinator; Rachel Cook, Grants Coordinator; Liz Gabbitas, Digital Access & Education Program Manager; Jeri Openshaw, Communications Coordinator; Char Newbold, Metadata Cataloger; Amanda Rock, Administrative Assistant

Department of Heritage & Arts (DHA) Staff:

Jill Love, Executive Director; Katherine Potter, Deputy Director

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Ms. Mower.

Introductions:

Those present were identified by Ms. Mower.

Board Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2021:

Ms. Ord motioned to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Ms. Weibke. All board members voted in the affirmative.

OPMA Electronic Meeting Determination:

Ms. Mower read the statement, which allows an electronic meeting to take place without an anchor location.

New Board Member:

Ms. Johnson introduced the board's newest member, Rebekah Cummings, who will be representing Higher Education. Ms. Cummings took a few minutes to introduce herself.

Digital Access and Education Program:

Ms. Gabbitas explained the goals for the new Digital Access & Education program. She said this holistic and inclusive program will work towards digital access and literacy. She asked board members for feedback regarding gaps in digital access so she can set priorities for the new program. Ms. Mower suggested a closer look at Piute County. Ms. Cummings suggested working with local businesses.

USL and Bookmobile Marketing:

Ms. Openshaw shared the new Bookmobile marketing plan. This six month plan will include ads in local newspapers, ads on local radio, and social media posts.

New UGDL platform demonstration:

Ms. Newbold demonstrated the new platform for the Utah Government Digital Library.

Dept. of Cultural and Community Engagement update:

Ms. Love shared updates for CCE, including hiring the design firm and organizing meetings with constituents to gather feedback for the State History Museum. The museum is slated to open the fall of 2024. Ms. Potter shared an update for the State of Utah flag redesign project. She said this project will be a long and inclusive process, and that public libraries will be used for outreach. She asked board members to serve on subcommittees for the project, which will launch on October 26, 2021.

LSTA & ARPA funding update:

Ms. Cook reported on grants. From July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, 75% grants went to public libraries; she's hoping to pull more school and academic libraries in the future. She requested board members serve on grant review committees.

Ms. Cook said the hydroponic garden pilot project in Parowan is going well and they're considering adding more systems and exploring possibilities for entrepreneurship. Another successful project partnering with CCE's STEM Action Center is the stress relief kit for 2nd – 4th graders. Children can check this kit out at their local library. There's been a huge, positive response to this project.

Director's update:

Ms. Johnson updated the board on recent staff changes, including Ms. Cannon's promotion to Acting Library Development Manager. The Youth Services position, vacated by Sharon Deeds, will be posted in October. Another vacant position is the Technology & Innovation Coordinator, vacated by Ms. Gabbitas, who is now working as the Digital Access & Education Program Manager.

USL is working on their IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services) evaluation, which involves preparing and submitting a new five year plan.

Mendon Library has applied for certification. A panel will decide on their certification by December 14, 2021.

Dashboard report:

Ms. Fendrick shared the library data available on USL's website.

Staff reports:**Library Resources**

Ms. Erickson shared information about Open Athens platform which will help staff gain better usage statistics. After the libraries have migrated to this new Identify Access Management platform, USL will reach out to other CCE divisions to see if they have use for this software. She stated the Utah Newspaper

database and Learning Express Library contract will be ending in the next year, and the Resources team will need to decide how to proceed.

Ms. Erickson said the One Book, One Utah Program committee has been organized, and have drafted this goal:

Facilitate a common conversation amongst all residents of the state about what it means to be an American, by presenting state-wide programming centering on works of literature that speak to the diversity in cultures, beliefs, and experiences, both good and bad, that makes us one, great, united people.

Blind and Disabled Program

Ms. Nelson explained how braille e-readers are transforming the way people read braille. Between 75 – 80 braille books can fit on one cartridge, giving readers a lot more to read.

The Blind and Disabled Program will be partnering with DSBVI (Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired) to host an upcoming open house for patrons. The program is also working with NLS (National Library Services) on a project to record western books for patrons who enjoy audio books.

Library Development

Ms. Cannon stated the Development team has completed recertification and has approved recertification for all libraries. They found 11 libraries made impactful contributions to their communities during COVID, with five providing exemplary services. These 16 libraries will be recognized and awarded at the upcoming Directors' Summit, October 13 – 15, 2021, planned and hosted by the Development team.

Ms. Cannon also shared the following updates:

- Summer reading workshops for librarians are planned for the first week of November.
- The Annual Statistical Report has been updated with data from 2020.
- Staff is working with State History to highlight Carnegie libraries in a podcast.

Adjourn

Ms. Mower adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Upcoming State Library Board Meetings: December 10, 2021; March 25, 2021

APPROVED